Union Appeal 04-04-07

Reps on the ball when it comes to Wood

It's often been said over the years that many of the cigar-puffing members of the

state House of Representatives don't know their ashes from a hole in the ground.

Fortunately, that isn't the case when it comes to them and Lucille Wood.

The state House of Representatives recently honored the longtime East Central Community College faculty member and former women's basketball, volleyball, and tennis coach with two standing ovations and a reso-



lution commending her 53 years of service in

the state's community and junior college system.

Wood, who began her junior college career in 1953 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson, told the group, "My love is the classroom. Even though I teach two fitness and conditioning classes, I find that the classroom offers me my greatest challenge."

A 1949 graduate of Louisville High School, Wood, who was inducted into the NJCAA Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Salina, Kan., in 2004, informed the gathering she has no plans to step down from her teaching chores.

In fact, she plans to report "at 7 a.m. each day... and to be there for our students and to let them know they are always welcome in my office."

While many of the coaches in the NCAA fought to bring women's athletics up to an even par with men, at least as far as the school's treatment was concerned. Wood did the same on the juco level. The result was eventually the establishment of Title IX.

Women's juco basketball in the state was reinstated in 1974 with scholarships for the girls... just like the boys had long been receiving for football and basketball.

She led ECJC to state championships in 1976 and 1979. The Warriorettes, as they were known then, would have had a chance to play in some regional and possibly national tournaments, had the ECJC president at

that time seen fit to pay the patry \$2 national dues.

And there was time ECJC was hosting a state tournament but had to borrow an offi-cial basketball from Neshoba Central High School since ECJC's budget didn't provide for one.

That was the type battle Wood had to fight. It would be unfair to say she fought the battle alone, but Wood definitely got in a few good blows along the way and today's female athletes can be proud she stood up for them long before they were even born.

A resolution honoring her teaching/coaching career was sponsored by representative Gale Gregory of Wood's native Winston County.

Union Appeal

Brackeen, Wood, Vincent chosen to MCJC Hall of Fame

Three East Central Community llege alumni who made their rks in athletics are included in the

st class of outstanding from letes and coaches school ected for induction reports o the Mississippi

mmunity/Junior College Sports Il of Fame.

Arno Vincent, Lucille Wood, and late Denver Brackeen were recnized with other honorees during induction banquet on April 24 on Copiah-Lincoln Community llege campus in Wesson.

The names of all inductees will be played on a large plaque for disy in the State Board for mmunity and Junior Colleges' BCJC) office in Jackson.

Vincent, a 1937 ECCC graduate, s an all-state selection in football i basketball as a member of the 35-36 and 1936-37 squads. He ntinued his athletic career at the iversity of Southern Mississippi, ving as team captain in football basketball.

He later returned to ECCC to ich the 1947-49 football squads, l led the Warrior basketball teams m 1947-53. His 1952-53 basketl squad captured Region 7 and te championships and finished orth in the NJCAA Tournament.

Vincent served as ECCC president m 1953-62 and is a former assist superintendent for Meridian olic Schools.

He is a member of the ECCC nletic Hall of Fame and was ucted into the Football Hall of ne and Alumni Hall of Fame at







Lucille Wood



Arno Vincent

Alumnus of the Year in 1973 and the College's administration building was named in his honor in 1999.

A military veteran, Vincent served in the U.S. Navv from 1942-46 with the Pacific Fleet.

He and his wife, the former Winifred McElhenney, reside in Petal. He has two daughters, Pamela Vincent and Daphne Vincent Lancaster. His first wife, the former Ruth Carr of Winston County, is deceased.

Wood, a 1951 ECCC graduate, lettered in basketball and tennis while a member of the 1949-50 and 1950-51 teams.

Since varsity sports were not available for women on the senior college level, Wood participated in intramural sports at the University of Southern Mississippi from 1951-53. She received a bachelor's degree in physical education and a master's in health, physical education and recreation from USM.

Wood later returned to ECCC and coached basketball club teams from 1958-74; women's basketball, 1974-85; men's and women's tennis, 1958-

USM. He was selected ECCC's 76; and volleyball, 1968-71. She led four of her women's basketball teams to state titles and several division championships. She also captured a state title in volleyball and five of her tennis players won individual state championships.

Wood is also recognized as a pioneer in women's athletics and worked for the implementation of the Title IX ruling for colleges in Mississippi.

She has received numerous honors throughout her career. She was chosen ECCC Alumna of the Year in 1965: MACJC Coach of the Year, 1979; and was named to the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986. The college's physical education building was named for her and Denver Brackeen in 1988. She served as Region 23 Director of Athletics from 1987-1997 and was one of three recipients of the NJCAA Service Award.

Wood was chosen HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day; Working Toward Academic Excellence) Instructor of the Year in 1990; Mississippi Humanities Council Instructor of the Year, 2003; and Mississippi Women's

Conference "Power of One" Award winner in 2003.

She was inducted into the NJCAA Women's Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in 2004 and the same year received a BlueCross-BlueShield Ageless Hero Award in the "Love of Learning" category.

The Mississippi House of Representatives recognized Wood for her 53 years of service in the state's community and junior college system by adopting a resolution in her honor during the 2007 session.

Wood teaches health, first aid, physical education, recreational leadership, and fitness and conditioning classes at ECCC where she also serves as Chairman of the Division of Social Science, Business and Education

Brackeen, a member of the ECCC Class of 1953, was a standout member of the 1949-1950 and 1952-53 basketball squads, earning All-State honors both seasons and NJCAA First Team All-American status in 1953.

He led the Warriors to state and regional championships and a fourth place finish in the NJCAA Men's Basketball Tournament during the 1952-53 season. While participating in the national tournament, Brackeen scored a record 51 points in one contest and was named the NJCAA Most Valuable Player.

Brackeen continued his basketball career at the University of Mississippi, where he received All-American honors by the Helms Athletic Foundation and was selected Most Valuable Player in the Southeastern Conference. He was twice named to All-SEC teams and was chosen by Look Magazine as the Most

Valuable Player in District V, which consisted of nine southern states.

He was drafted by the New York Knickerbockers professional basketball team but soon returned to ECCC to begin a 28-year career serving in various capacities including coach, guidance counselor, admissions director, and dean of students.

Brackeen led Warrior basketball teams from 1955 to 1963, compiling a record of 137 wins and 52 losses. His most successful season was his last at the Warrior helm. The 1962-63 team finished 22-3 and advanced to the state tournament semifinals. Members of Brackeen's basketball teams successfully led efforts recently to establish a scholarship in his honor at ECCC.

Brackeen, who in 1985 was chosen the first member of the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame, was also inducted into the NJCAA Men's Basketball Hall of Fame, Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, and the University of Mississippi Athletic Hall of Fame. He was also chosen a Chik-fil-A SEC Basketball Legend of the Year.

He was selected ECCC Alumnus of the Year in 1982 and the college's physical education building was named for him and Lucille Wood in 1988.

Brackeen also had a distinguished career in Mississippi National Guard. He served as Mississippi's Adjutant General during Desert Storm and retired from military service in 1992 with the rank of major general.

His widow, Charlotte Wells Brackeen, resides in Union. They had two sons, Morgan Denver Brackeen and Charlie Wells Brackeen (deceased).

Former EC standouts named to Hall of Fame

Two former football greats at East Central Community College in Decatur were among new members of the Mississippi



MARSHALL

Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) Sports Hall of Fame.

Earl Marshall of Hattiesburg and the late Lamar Blount of Decatur were officially be inducted along with other members of the 2008 Class during a ceremony scheduled Tuesday, April 22 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

Marshall was a member of the 1954 and 1955 Warrior squads, earning All-State honors at offensive and defensive end following his sophomore season. He also served as sophomore class president.

Prior to attending then ECJC, Marshall was a three sport lettermen as a member of the football, basketball and baseball teams at Philadelphia High School.

Blount is recognized as the first athlete to receive All-American status at East Central Community College in Decatur,

Dem 4-30-08 an honor he received in 1939 as a member of the state champion Warrior football team. Blount



BLOUNT

began his athletic career at Philadelphia High School, excelling in football, basketball, track and baseball. He made the All-State team in football as an end. But at the beginning of his junior year he transferred to Newton County Agricultural High School so he would be eligible to play at then "ECJC" his last two years in high school. The agricultural high school was at that time a

A fullback at EC, Blount scored 86 points his freshman year and played on the 1938 undefeated team. He scored 100 points his sophomore season and helped lead the 1939 team to an undefeated season and the College's only state championship in football. He was selected an All-State fullback following the season in addition to receiving All-American honors.

part of the College.

Blount died on Aug, 6, 2007, a short time following the death of his wife.

FCCC

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

- 1985- Denver Brackeen, Union
- 1986- Lucille Wood, Decatur
- 1987- Billy Wayne Baucum, Deceased
- 1988- Howard Jean Sessums, Deceased
- 1989- Lamar Blount, Decatur Arno Vincent, Meridian Earl Marshall, Clinton
- 1990- Jeff Loper, Decatur Richard Harris, Hickory Sherrell Ray Marshall, Jackson
- 1991- Larry Henderson, Daphne, Alabama Diana Lyons Jones, Bay Springs Wayne Tullos, Belle Glade, Florida
- 1992- Evelyn Bender, Lawrence Joe Clark, Decatur Bert Thompson, Deceased
- 1993- Esther Thomas Coleman, Louisville Barbara Jo Davidson Russell, Decatur
- 1994- Charlene Jones Bates, Forest Charlie Hope, Sharpsburg, Georgia Malcolm "Puddin" Jones, Deceased
- 1995- Clayton Blount, Decatur Nan Huston Keenan, Rose Hill James T. "Jim" Wood, Louisville



ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

1985

Brackeen, Denver (Union)

1986

Wood, Lucille (Decatur & Louisville)

1987

Baucum, Billy Wayne (Deceased)

1988

Sessums, Howard (Deceased)

1989

Blount, Lamar (Decatur) Marshall, earl (Clinton) Vincent, Arno (Meridian)

1990

Harris, Richard (Hickory) Loper, Jeff (Decatur) Marshall, Sherrell Ray (Jackson)

1991

Henderson, Larry (Mobile) Jones, Diana Lyons (Bay Springs) Tullos, Wayne Belle Glade, FL)

1992

Bender, Evelyn (Newton) Clark, Joe (Decatur) Thompson, Dr. Bert (Deceased)

1993

Coleman, Esther Thomas (Louisville) Russell, Barbara Jo Davidson (Union) Watwood, Col. Louis v. (Arlington, VA)

1994

Bates, Charlene Jones (Forest) Sharpsburg, Charlie Hope (Sharpsburg, GA) Jones, Malcom "Puddin" (Deceased)

1995

Blount, Clayton (Decatur) Keenan, Nan Huston (Rose Hill) Woods, James T. "Jim" (Louisville)

1996

Davis, M.E. "Boe" (Cary, NC) Golden, John W. (Stone Mountain, GA) Latham, Julie (Morton) Phillips, Malcolm (Newton)

1997

Alfonso, Tommye Williamson (Deceased) Baucum, Lester (Wiggins) Nelson, James L. "Creeper" (Newton)

1998

Chancellor, Van (Houston, TX) Duncan, Deborah Norwood (Philadelphia) Sessums, Howard (Clinton)

1999

Chaney, Daisy Kate Williams (Union) Rutigliano, Sam (Forest, VA) Ward, Charles E. (Pace, FL)

2000

Dill, Billy Ray (Escatawpa) Gunter, Sue (Baton Rouge, LA) Rea, Jimmy (Madison)

2001

Coats, Willie "Tenny" (Decatur)
Pace, Sammy (Decatur)
Payne, Charlie (Florence)

2002

Bagley, Freddie J. (Forest) Nabers, James E. "Jim" (Louisville) Thomas, Robert (Philadelphia)

2003

2003

Baker, Roy (Deceased) (Class of 1956) Borganelli, Imogene Johnson (Greenville) (Class of 1947) Keeton, Rex (Taylorsville) (Class of 1965) Killens, Mark (Newton) (Class of 1978)



History

The Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame was conceived in the interest of recognizing coaches and athletes who have coached and/or played in one or more of Mississippi's public community or junior colleges. Acknowledging the fact that there have been many outstanding athletes who have contributed greatly to the successful sports programs throughout the two-year college system, the Mississippi Association of Community & Junior Colleges (MACJC) wishes to begin a program of recognition whereby individuals may be recognized for their contributions to the tremendous success of community and junior college sports in Mississippi.

The By-Laws for the Sports Hall of Fame, considered and approved by the MACJC at its annual athletic meeting on January 23, 2007, establish the framework to recognize forty-five individuals the first year, thirty individuals the second year and then ten individuals each year thereafter.

Congratulations to the charter members of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Sports Hall of Fame







Mississippi Association of Community & Junior Colleges Sports Hall of Fame First Annual Induction Banquet for Charter Members



Billy B. Thames Conference Center Wolf Hall Reception 6:30 PM Banquet 7:00 PM

Program

Master of Ceremonies

Bill Snyder

Public Information Coordinator, MGCCC

Welcome & Remarks

Dr. David Cole, MACJC Chairman

President, Itawamba Community College

Invocation

Dr. Scott Elliott, MACJC Secretary

President, Meridian Community College

Dinner

Comments

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher

Executive Director, SBCJC

Awards Presentation

Presidents of Respective Colleges

Closing Remarks

Dr. Howell C. Garner, MACJC Vice Chairman President, Copiah-Lincoln Community College

Coahoma Community College

INDUCTEES





Ella Morris

Coach | Basketball | 1974 - 1995

In 1979, Coach Morris was named NJCAA Region VII Coach of the Year; with her team winning the NJCAA Regional Championship and ranked No. 2 in the nation averaging 102.2 points per game. In 1980 when Coahoma's team took the 2nd place regional trophy, Coach Morris was voted in the Top 10 Coaches of the Nation and received the Wade Award presented at the Plaza Hotel in New York City.

She served as North All-Star coach in 1983, 1986, 1988, 1992, 1995, 1996 and coached Coahoma's women to the NJCAA Region 23 championship in 1988 and was named regional Coach of the Year. She was inducted into the National Association of Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) and presented its Distinguished Alumni Citation of the Year Award in Washington D.C. in 1988.

In 1991 Coach Morris was North Coach and Administrative Assistant for the U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles with her team winning a silver medal.

In 1995 Coach Morris coached Coahoma's team to second place in the NJCAA Region 23. Her team included a player ranked No. 1 scorer in the nation. In 1996 her CCC women won second in Mississippi's North Division and second in the state championship. In 1997 she retired after receiving CCC's 23rd Year Award and the State Association's 30-year Award.

Mary Ann Tribble Player | Women's Basketball | 1987 - 1989

Honors and Achievements: High School: 1985-86-87 - All State, All North-Half, All DVC and MVP - Average - 40 PPG - Highest points in a game - 67 - Who's Who High School Students (Academic) Coahoma Junior College – 1987 – 1989

Freshman Year: 2nd leading scorer in national Poll - Region 23 - MVP - CCC Captain & MVP -Averaged 24PPG, 13 rebounds

Sophomore Year: Region 23 MVP - All Region, All State - CCC Captain, MVP, Leading Scorer, Leading Rebounder, Averaged 28 PPG, and 15 Rebounds, Holds CCC record most pints scored in a single game - (62) - Jacksonville State University, Captain - MVP, Batesville Job Corp Semi-Pro Basketball

Team - 1994; Invited to WNBA Basketball Try-outs in 1997. Did not go because mother had a stroke, which she survived. Father died, did not return to Jacksonville, got a job as a UPS Clark to help support her sisters. Presently working at Parkers.



Dr. Lonnie J. Edwards

Player | Basketball | 1967 - 1969

Dr. Lonnie J. Edwards of Atlanta, a nationally-known motivational speaker, educator, and author, is retired from his position as an assistant superintendent with the DeKalb County School System, one of the largest public educational systems in Georgia.

Following CJC graduation, Dr. Edwards earned an undergraduate degree at Montevallo University, a predominately white college in Alabama where he was the first black male athlete recruited and admitted to the school. Dr. Edwards graduated with honors and was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame at both institutions. He was named an Outstanding Athlete of America in 1971, and served as basketball team captain at the University of Montevallo.

Following a decision to become an educator, he earned two master's degrees from the University of Montevallo and a doctorate from Clark/Atlanta University. In 1996, he was featured on the Sally Jessy Raphael television show for making a significant difference in the life of a former student who was born with a physical disability. Later Dr. Edwards wrote a book - A Teacher's Touch - Reaching Beyond Boundaries - about the experience that led to his recognition in the "Heroes for Today" section of the September 1997 issue of the Reader's Digest, and to the creation of the Edwards-Miller Foundation for Physical Disabilities, Inc. The organization has provided college scholarships for more than 15 physically and mentally challenged individuals, and Dr. Edwards serves as board chairman. He was CCC's "Top Role Model" for an educational ad campaign, and was selected a member of the Board of Directors for the Georgia Partnership for Excellence for 2003-2004.





INDUCTEES



Henry L. "Hook" Stone (Deceased)

Stone coached Co-Lin's football team to eight state championships between 1928 and 1938. Co-Lin's football stadium on the Wesson Campus is named for Stone. After leaving Co-Lin, Stone coached at Millsaps college form 1939 to 1941.

He received a B.S. from Mississippi State University and a diploma from Rockne School of Coaching. Stone lettered in both football and basketball while a student at Mississippi State between 1922 and 1925. It was at Mississippi State that Stone earned the nickname "Hook" on the basketball court. "He could jump up for a rebound and hook the ball to a teammate before his feet touched the floor," according to a Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame biography. He is also a member of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and the Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame. Stone died in 1972.

 $M.\,K.\,\,Turk$ Player | Basketball | 1960 - 1962

Turk was an outstanding basketball player and coach at Co-Lin. A native of Bardwell, KY, Turk played with the Wolves in 1960-62. He served as team captain and won all-state honors. Turk returned to Co-Lin in 1968 as men's basketball coach and athletic director. Between 1968 and 1974 he accumulated a record of 117-43. The Wolves won Region VII titles in 1973 and 1974.

He is best known across the state as the only coach to have led a state college men's division I basket-ball program to a national title. Turk's University of Southern Mississippi Eagles won the NIT in 1987. He is also a member of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and the Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame. He lives in Hattiesburg.





Carl Medley
Player | Basketball | 1947 - 1949

Medley, a 1949 graduate of Co-Lin, was a star athlete on the first Wolves basketball team to ever win a state championship. The team won state championships in both 1948 and 1949. Medley was named first team, all-state in 1949. That year he scored 404 points. In two seasons of play the Wolves posted 42 victories out of 47 starts in regular conference play.

He afterwards played for Delta State University where he was the leading scorer, and the team won the conference championship. Medley played professional basketball for the Whiskered Wizards for six years and played baseball in the St. Louis Browns organization. Medley, who lives in Houston, TX, was inducted into the Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame in 1982.

East Central Community College







Denver Brackeen (Deceased)

Player | Basketball | 1949 - 1950 & 1952 - 1953 Coach | Men's Basketball | 1955 - 1963

Denver Brackeen attended East Central Junior College from 1949-1950 and 1952-1953. He was NJCAA 1st Team All American, 1953 in Basketball; All State both seasons played and was NJCAA Most Valuable Player in 1953 when he set a new junior college national scoring record in tournament play.

Honors Received: NJCAA 1st Team All American, 1953; All-State (1949-1950 & 1952 – 1953); NJCAA Most Valuable Player, 1953; Set a New Junior College National Scoring Record in Tournament Play. He played basketball at the University of Mississippi in 1954-56, where he was All SEC in both seasons. In 1954-55 he was All American, SEC MVP and 5th in the nation in scoring, setting 23 school

records. He was drafted by the New York Knickerbockers and Played Professional Basketball for one season.

Brackeen coached Men's Basketball at East Central from 1955–1963. He was a NJCAA Men's Basketball Hall of Fame Inductee; Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Inductee; University of Mississippi Athletic Hall of Fame; ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee, 1985; ECCC Alumnus of the Year, 1982; Honored with Building dedicated, Bracken-Wood Physical Education Building, on the Decatur Campus of ECCC, 1988; Named the Chick-Fil-A SEC Basketball Legend of the Year.

Lucille Wood

Player | Basketball & Tennis | 1949 - 1951 Coach | Women's Basketball (Club Teams) | 1958 - 1974 Women's Basketball | 1974 - 1985 Men's & Women's Tennis | 1958 - 1976

Volleyball | 1968 - 1971

Lucille Wood attended East Central Junior College from 1949-1951. She played both seasons in Basketball and Tennis. She played Intramural Sports 1951–1953 (there were no varsity sports for women at the senior college level). She received her B.S. in PE and a M.A. in Health, PE and Recreation from USM



Wood coached: Women's Basketball Club Teams 1958–1974; Women's Basketball 1974–1985; Men's and Women's Tennis 1958–1976; and Volleyball 1968–1971; Won 4 state championships in women's basketball; Won 1 state championship in volleyball; Coached 5 individual champions in tennis

She was recognized as ECCC Alumna of the Year, 1965; MACJC Coach of the Year; 1979; ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee; 1986; honored with a building dedicated, Bracken-Wood Physical Education Building, on the Decatur campus of ECCC, 1988; Region XXIII Director, 1987-1997; HEADWAE Instructor of the Year; 1990; MS Humanities Council Instructor of the Year, 2003; MS Woman's Conference "Power of One" Award Winner, 2003; NJCAA Service Award Recipient, 2007; NJCAA Women's Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame, 2004; and Blue Cross Blue Shield Ageless Hero Award – Love of Learning Statewide Winner, 2004



East Central Community College





Walker Arno Vincent

Player | Football & Basketball | 1935 - 1937

Coach | Football | 1947 - 1949

Coach | Men's Basketball | 1947 - 1953

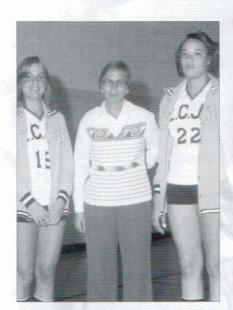
Walter Arno Vincent attended East Central Junior College from 1935-1937. He played Football and Basketball both seasons. He was recognized as All State in Football and Basketball. Following ECCC he played Football and Basketball at USM, where he was Team Captain in both sports. He was inducted into the University of Southern Mississippi Football Hall of Fame and Alumni Hall of Fame

Vincent coached Football at East Central from 1947-1949 and Men's Basketball 1947-1953; Won the Region 7 and State titles and finished fourth in the NJCAA Tournament

He was an ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee, 1989; ECCC Alumnus of the Year, 1973; Honored with a Building Dedication, Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building, on the Decatur Campus of ECCC; University of Southern Mississippi Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee.



Brackeen



Wood



Vincent





Robert Victor "Bull-Cyclone" Sullivan (deceased)
Coach | Football | 1949 - 1968

Robert Victor "Bull-Cyclone" Sullivan's career at EMJC began in 1949. The first year he had only one returning player yet that first team beat the defending national champions, Little Rock, in the first game of the year. During his successful tenure at EMJC, Bob coached in nine high school All-American games and many Junior College All-Star games. He was the head coach of the victorious 1962 East Squad. He coached 31 All-Americans at EMJC, including All-American quarterbacks for 5 years in a row! He coached three championship baseball teams at EMJC. He was the first person from Mississippi to serve on the prestigious NCAA Football Rules Committee. During his three-year tenure on the rules committee,

he introduced the mandatory mouthpiece rule for players. Bob "Bull-Cyclone" Sullivan received the Mississippi Junior College Association resolution of respect; he was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in 1984; the National Junior College Football Hall of Fame in 1996; received the All-American Football Foundation's outstanding performance award in 1999; and was inducted into the East Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame in 2001.

William F. Buckner

Player | Football | 1963 - 1965

Bill Buckner had the unusual honor of being named the most valuable player for three different teams in 4 out of five years. He was the MVP at Starkville High in 1962, at EMJC in 1963 and 1964 and at Delta State University in 1966. At EMJC Bill was named to the All-State team and he was an All-American in 1963 and 1964. After leaving EMJC, Bill went to Mississippi State on an athletic scholarship where he was named to the All SEC Scholastic team in 1965, and he was a Dean's list scholar. After one year at State, Bill transferred to Delta State where he rewrote the passing record book. In addition to being the MVP at Delta State, Bill was the Most Valuable Back, and he won the Jackson Touchdown Club Award



in 1966. He was drafted by the Atlanta Falcons in 1967. He played for two years with the Falcon farm team the Huntsville Hawks. Bill became the State Director of the Fellowship of Christian athletes in 1987, and in 2001 he became a Regional Director for the FCA which includes Mississippi, Alabama, and Northwest Florida. In 2001, he was inducted into the East Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame. He lives in Madison with his wife, the former Patti Smith of Hattiesburg.



Clyde "Baby Doll" Pierce

Clyde "Baby Doll" Pierce attended EMJC in 1959-1961. He was very active in student affairs serving on the student council. As a freshman, he lettered in football, baseball, and track. He was chosen as the best blocker on the team and the most valuable running back. Weighing only 124 pounds, he became the smallest man ever to be named to the All-American team. "Baby Doll" played in the East West Shriner Game in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1960. Perhaps the greatest honor ever bestowed on Clyde "Baby Doll" Pierce was in 1961 when his jersey #31 was the only jersey ever retired by legendary Coach Bob "Bull" Sullivan. He was inducted into the East Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame in 2001. Clyde and his wife Joyce live in West Point; they have three sons and three grandchildren.



GHINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INDUCTEES



Nick Revon
Player | Basketball, Baseball, Track | 1949 - 1951

Nick Revon participated in Basketball, Baseball and Track during 1949 and 1950. The Hinds cindermen won the state track championship for a fifth consecutive year in 1949. Revon led the way, breaking existing state records in the high jump, 6'1 ½", and the broad jump 23' 6 ½". Revon's abilities on the basketball court, baseball field, and the track path won him the "Best Athlete" honor both years at Hinds. He was named "Most Valuable Player" in regional basketball competition and set single game high score (42 points) and three game high score (110 points) records. He also achieved All-State distinction in basketball, baseball, and track both years at Hinds. Revon was picked by the Minneapolis Lakers in the 1954 NBA draft.

Earl Leggett Player | Football | 1951 - 1954 Coach | Football | 1970 - 1971

Earl Leggett participated in Hinds high school and college football during 1951-1954. All-Star, All-American, All-Pro, Leggett went from team captain of the Hinds 1954 Junior College Rose Bowl Championship to standout player at Louisiana State University where he earned All-Southeastern Conference, All-South and All-American honors. He was a first-round draft pick for the Chicago Bears in 1957. After nine years with the Bears, and shorter stints with the Los Angeles Rams and the New Orleans Saints, Leggett returned to Hinds as head football coach in 1970. Then it was on to coaching at universities in Louisiana and Texas and pro ball in Seattle and San Francisco. He also spent many years coaching with



the Los Angeles Raiders, where he coached on two Super Bowl champion teams. Rounding out his career coaching for the New York Giants and the Washington Redskins, he retired in 2000 after 24 years of NFL coaching. In 2002 he was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.



Troy Arlis Ricks
Coach | Basketball & Baseball | 1949 - 1970

Troy Ricks coached basketball as head coach at Hinds from 1949 to 1970. As a player he had been Most Valuable and All-State at Sunflower Junior College. At Delta State he was NAIB (National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball) All-Tournament and All American in 1940 and 1941. He played pro ball before entering the Army. He coached at Saltillo High School and Copiah-Lincoln Junior College before beginning to coach at Hinds Agricultural High School, 1949-1951. He became head basketball coach at Hinds Junior College 1951-1970, with his 1967 team winning the College's first state championship. Ricks finished coaching with a remarkable record of 441-156 and a winning percentage of 73 percent, reflecting several state and region titles. In addition, he coached two years of college baseball, winning the state junior college baseball championship. In 1970 he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Mississippi Association of Coaches, and he will be inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in July 2007.

Holmes Community College

INDUCTEES





Ode Burrell
Player | Football | 1960 - 1962

Burrell played football at Holmes 1960-1962. He was an immediate standout on the football team, both as an offensive and defensive player. Among his countless feats was one game against East Mississippi Junior College in which he scored four touchdowns. The shortest of the runs leading to a score was 80 yards. He was named All-American. In addition he was the state's 220-yard track champion. For the 1962-63 year, Burrell was the leading rusher, punter, punt returner and kickoff returner at Mississippi State. He started on offense as a tailback and on defense as a cornerback and was a punter and kick-off returner. At State, he was named to the Coaches All-American Team and he made All-SEC.

He was MVP in the Liberty Bowl and was named best offensive back in the Senior Bowl and Blue-Gray games in 1963. He also played in the College All-American game in Buffalo, N.Y., and the East-West game in Chicago. At the end of his senior year, he was drafted by both the Houston Oilers and the Green Bay Packers. In 1964, Burrell raced 93 yards for a touchdown in his first game in Houston. In 1967, Burrell was the Oiler's MVP and was among the top five in rushing and pass receiving. In 1968, he played in the Pro Bowl. After the pros, he coached at Bogalusa, La., Vancleave, Stone County, Mississippi Gulf and St. Stanislaus.

Charlie Howard Player | Basketball | 1977 - 1979

Charlie Howard was a three-sport athlete in high school, making All-State his junior and senior years as a prepster in track and basketball. During his two years on the floor of the Frank B. Branch Coliseum at Holmes Junior College, he earned accolades as leading scorer two years; 1978-1979 Mississippi Junior College Player of the Year and All-Region XXIII, his sophomore year. In 1979, Howard transferred to Arkansas College in Batesville, Ark., to get his last two years of post secondary academic training. In 1981, he was selected NAIA All American and Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference Player of the Year. Upon graduation from Arkansas College, Howard entered the ranks of high school coaches in order to remain close to basketball. He served as an assistant at Arkansas College in 1984-85, coached at Beebe



High School in Beebe, Ark., Forrest City High School, Mabelvale Junior High School in Little Rock, Ark., Pulaski Academy in Little Rock, South Panola High School in Batesville and Grenada High School in Grenada. He remains as head coach at South Panola today.

He is a member of the HCC Sports Hall of Fame and was inducted into the Arkansas College Sports Hall of Fame in 1990.



Hugh M. Pepper Player | Football, Baseball | 1949 - 1951

A member of the 1950 state junior college championship team, Pepper and the Bulldogs played in three bowl games after the 1950 season. They played in the Lions Bowl against East Mississippi, the Gulf Bowl in Corpus Christi, Texas, and in the Memorial Bowl in Jackson. His freshman year, he was named Second Team All-State. His sophomore season, he was First Team All-State and Honorable Mention All-American.

After graduating from USM, he played professional baseball for the Pittsburgh Pirates and minor league teams in Hollywood, Calif., Columbus, Ohio, Salt Lake City, Utah, Dallas, Texas, and Hawaii. During his major league career in Pittsburgh, he logged 122 innings in 44 games.

Pepper is a member of the Holmes Sports Hall of Fame, Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, the USM Sports Hall of Fame and the MAC Sports Hall of Fame. He was named Coach of the Year numerous times and won 12 Gulf Coast Conference Championships and was runner-up in Division 7 Dis. 5A in 1987. He spent over 30 years coaching, primarily at Ocean Springs High School. Pepper and his wife, Janice, reside in Ocean Springs.

Itawamba Community College





Joe Ferguson Player | Basketball | 1967 - 1969

Joe Ferguson attended Itawamba Community College from January 1967-1969 where he played basketball both seasons. He was inducted into the ICC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1996. His honors included All-State and All-North Division during his sophomore season (1968-69). Ferguson averaged 15.5 points per game and led the team in rebounding with 12.7 boards per game.

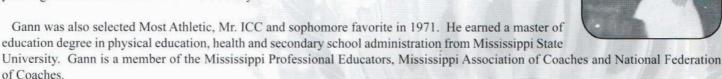
Ferguson also played basketball from 1969 to May 1971 at Mississippi Industrial College where his honors were Honorable Mention All-Conference in each season. He is a 1971 graduate of Mississippi Industrial College with a Bachelor of Science degree in health and physical education. The Fulton native

was the girls basketball and track coach for 26 years at Nettleton. His 1992 girls basketball team won the North Half Championship, and his 1993 squad finished third at the state tournament. In addition, Ferguson was named Lee County Girls Basketball Coach of the Year from 1993-96.

He and his wife, Velma, are the parents of one son, Jason, who now starts at nose tackle for the Dallas Cowboys.

Larry Gann
Player | Football | 1970 - 1972

Larry Gann played football at ICC during the 1970 and '71 seasons. He was inducted into the ICC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995. His honors included the National Junior College All-Star team and the Outstanding College Athletes of America Hall of Fame. During his sophomore season, the Okolona native set seven national junior college passing records, including throwing for seven touchdown passes and 417 yards against rival Northeast in a 74-22 victory.



He has served as teacher-coach for 33 years. Currently the athletic director and head football coach at Horn Lake High School, he has coached football for 32 years. Gann has been nominated twice for Phi Delta Kappa Administrator of the Year and Coach of the Year twice in football. He and his wife, Lisa, are the parents of one child, Ginny Lynne.



Holmes Community College



Ode Burrell
Player | Football | 1960 - 1962

Burrell played football at Holmes 1960-1962. He was an immediate standout on the football team, both as an offensive and defensive player. Among his countless feats was one game against East Mississippi Junior College in which he scored four touchdowns. The shortest of the runs leading to a score was 80 yards. He was named All-American. In addition he was the state's 220-yard track champion. For the 1962-63 year, Burrell was the leading rusher, punter, punt returner and kickoff returner at Mississippi State. He started on offense as a tailback and on defense as a cornerback and was a punter and kick-off returner. At State, he was named to the Coaches All-American Team and he made All-SEC.

He was MVP in the Liberty Bowl and was named best offensive back in the Senior Bowl and Blue-Gray games in 1963. He also played in the College All-American game in Buffalo, N.Y., and the East-West game in Chicago. At the end of his senior year, he was drafted by both the Houston Oilers and the Green Bay Packers. In 1964, Burrell raced 93 yards for a touchdown in his first game in Houston. In 1967, Burrell was the Oiler's MVP and was among the top five in rushing and pass receiving. In 1968, he played in the Pro Bowl. After the pros, he coached at Bogalusa, La., Vancleave, Stone County, Mississippi Gulf and St. Stanislaus.

Charlie Howard Player | Basketball | 1977 - 1979

Charlie Howard was a three-sport athlete in high school, making All-State his junior and senior years as a prepster in track and basketball. During his two years on the floor of the Frank B. Branch Coliseum at Holmes Junior College, he earned accolades as leading scorer two years; 1978-1979 Mississippi Junior College Player of the Year and All-Region XXIII, his sophomore year. In 1979, Howard transferred to Arkansas College in Batesville, Ark., to get his last two years of post secondary academic training. In 1981, he was selected NAIA All American and Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference Player of the Year. Upon graduation from Arkansas College, Howard entered the ranks of high school coaches in order to remain close to basketball. He served as an assistant at Arkansas College in 1984-85, coached at Beebe



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He is a member of the HCC Sports Hall of Fame and was inducted into the Arkansas College Sports Hall of Fame in 1990.



Hugh M. Pepper Player | Football, Baseball | 1949 - 1951

A member of the 1950 state junior college championship team, Pepper and the Bulldogs played in three bowl games after the 1950 season. They played in the Lions Bowl against East Mississippi, the Gulf Bowl in Corpus Christi, Texas, and in the Memorial Bowl in Jackson. His freshman year, he was named Second Team All-State. His sophomore season, he was First Team All-State and Honorable Mention All-American.

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Itawamba Community College





Mark Bray

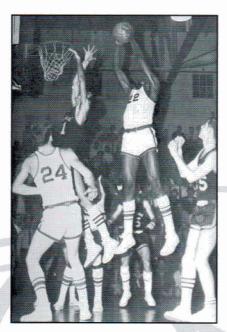
Player | Football | 1974 - 1976

Mark Bray attended ICC from 1974-76, where he participated in football. He was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001. His honors included All-State, Junior College All-Star Game, MJCA best offensive lineman for the north division and first-team All-American at center.

Bray has 28 years of coaching experience including assistant coach at Clarksville (Tenn.) High School and Houston High School and head football coach at Vardaman High School since 1985. His 21-year head coaching record is 174-88. His teams have won the 1983 MHSAA golf state championship; football division championships in 1986, 1991, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998 and football regional championships in 2000 and 2006.

His individual coaching honors include Mississippi Association of Coaches Golf Coach of the Year (1984-85); assistant coach for the Mississippi All-Star Game in 1994 and for the Mississippi-Alabama All-Star Game in 1999; and the Division-Region Coaching Staff of the Year (1991, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1997, and 2000).

Bray earned both the bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State University. He and his wife, Robin, are the parents of two children, Megan and Alex.



Joe Ferguson averaged 15.5 points per game and led the team in rebounding with 12.7 boards per game.



During his sophomore season, Larry Gann set seven national junior college passing records, including throwing for seven touchdown passes and 417 yards against rival Northeast in a 74-22 victory.



Jones County Junior College

INDUCTEES





Sim Cooley (deceased)

Coach | Football | 1961 - 1987 Player | Football | 1947 - 1949

Sim Cooley was born to Fred and Martha Cooley. He played football at Jones County Junior College from 1947-48, where he was on the 1947 undefeated state title team. He transferred to Mississippi State University, where he played football. After graduation, Cooley began his career as an assistant coach at Greenwood High School and coached high school football for 10 years. He then returned to JCJC as head football coach in 1961 where, over the course of 27 years, he compiled a record of 187 wins, 92 losses, and 5 ties. His teams won a national championship, five state championships, and participated in five bowl games. He was inducted into the state Coaches Hall of Fame in 1986, named the state junior college

Coach of the Year five times, and was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Dozens of his players were named to All State, All American, and Academic All American teams. He married Pat Cooley, and all three of their sons played under their father as Head Coach. David, Simmy, and Fred also followed their father into the record books as All-State players for JCJC. Cooley helped organize the JCJC Athletic Alumni Association, and the "Bobcat Club."

Joe Flowers
Player | Football | 1955 - 1957

Joe T. Flowers was born in Ellisville to Marie Flowers and W.O. Flowers, Sr. He began his career in football at Jones County Agricultural High School when he was put in the game after a player was injured. The freshman was so good he served as linebacker for the rest of the year, as well as playing the next three years. He received a football scholarship from Jones County Junior College in 1955. His team played in the Junior Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. In 1956, he made All American and All State and had a 5-yard-per-carry average. Offered scholarships from several universities, he chose Memphis State University. During football practice at Memphis State, he suffered an injury to his ankle, which ended his football career. After graduation, he taught at Ellisville Elementary School, Pleasant Ridge Elementary School, and



West Jones High School, before working at Sanderson Farms for 36 years. He is now retired. Flowers married Alyne Breland Flowers, and they have three children: Joe Thomas "Tommy" Flowers Jr., Karen, and Jason; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



A.B. Howard
Coach | Basketball | 1950 - 1977
Head Coach | Football | 1958 - 1960
Assistant Coach | Football | 1950 - 1963

Anse B. Howard, Jr. was born in Louisville, MS to Lula Mae Wilson Howard and Anse B. Howard, Sr. His family moved to Laurel where he attended high school and starred in football, basketball and track. His track team set the record in the Mile Relay, and their record was unbroken for 35 years. Coach Howard attended MSU on a football scholarship, and his team won the 1941 Southeastern Conference championship. He served in World War II and was a football and basketball coach at Glade High School before coaching football, basketball and track at Jones County Junior College. Both the JCJC basketball and

football teams won State Championship, and the football team played in the Junior Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. At JCJC, Howard became head football coach, head of the P.E. Department and Chairman of Student Affairs, and in 1960 he became JCJC's Athletic Director while remaining a coach and chairman. After serving the college for more than 32 years, Coach Howard retired in 1982. He holds the distinction of having the longest coaching tenure of any Bobcat coach.

Meridian Community College

INDUCTEES





Lou Weddington Hart

Player | Golf | 1971 - 1973 Coach | Golf | 1994 - 2006

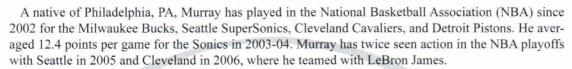
Ms. Hart excelled for Meridian Community College as both a player and coach. As a freshman in 1970-71, Ms. Hart represented Meridian Junior College in what was to become the NCAA women's national championship tournament. As a sophomore in 1971-72, she played on the inaugural MJC golf team, which won every tournament and dual match it entered. There was no MJC women's golf team, so Ms. Hart played on the men's squad. She went on from MJC to play two years on the Florida State University women's team. Thereafter, Ms. Hart captured nine Mississippi State Amateur Women's Championships, becoming the first women in the history of the state to achieve that distinction. She has also won two State

Senior Amateur Championships and is the only player to date in state history to have won both the women's state amateur and senior state amateur titles. She also competed twice in the USGA National Senior Amateur Championships, qualifying for the championship flight each time.

As MCC's men's golf coach for 12 years, Ms. Hart's teams won seven Region XXIII championships, three MACJC state championships, and finished ranked in the top 10 nationally seven seasons. Her 1997 squad finished as NJCAA national runners-up. Ms. Hart coached 12 NJCAA All-Americans, 8 regional medalists, and four NJCAA Academic All-Americans. In 2007, Ms. Hart was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in recognition of her playing and coaching accomplishments. In joining the state hall of fame, Ms. Hart joined her father, three-time Mississippi State Amateur Champion Hunter George Weddington, as the only father-daughter duo in the hall's history.

Ronald Murray Player | Basketball | 1997 - 1999

Ronald Murray played on Meridian Community College's men's basketball team in 1997-1999. He averaged 17 points per game as a freshman and 20 points per game as a sophomore. He led MCC to the Region XIII Championship as a sophomore. Following his career at MCC, Murray went on to play two years at Shaw College in North Carolina, where he was named NCAA Division II Player of the Year and 1st team All-American as a senior, while leading his team to the Division II Final Four.







Clifton Phifer Lee

Player | Baseball | 1997 - 1999

Cliff Lee pitched for the MCC Eagles baseball team in 1997-1999. The 6-3 lefthander hails from Benton, AR. He graduated from MCC in 1999 with a 3.14 GPA, then transferred to the University of Arkansas. Lee won nine games for the Eagles in 1998, helping the Eagles win the Region XXIII and sectional titles en route to the NJCAA Division I World Series in Grand Junction, CO. Lee finished his MCC career with 283 strikeouts.

Lee began his professional career with the Montreal Expos, and was acquired by the Cleveland Indians in 2002. Going into the 2007 season, Lee owned a major league record of 49-28 with a 4.39 earned run

average and 483 strike outs for his big league career. Lee's best year to date in the majors has been 2005 when he chalked up a 18-5 record and finished fourth in the American League Cy Young Award balloting. That same year he led all left-handers in the American League in won-loss percentage, the first Cleveland Indian to accomplish that feat since Bob Feller in 1951.





Bob Clark

Player | Football, Basketball, Track | 1960 - 1962

Moorhead native Bob Clark was a standout in athletics from the time he started playing sports in high school through his years at Mississippi Delta Junior College.

During his years at Moorhead High School (a part of Mississippi Delta Junior College) Clark lettered in football, basketball, and track. He was named All Central Delta Conference in football his freshman, sophomore, and junior years, and as a senior forward in 1960 he was named to play in the 11th Annual All Star Game as an end. Also as a senior he set the county record for the 440 yard dash in track.

Clark played football for two years under the guidance of legendary coaches Jim Randall and Jimmy Bellipanni at Mississippi Delta Junior College. During his freshman year the 6'2", 200-pound end received Honorable Mention All-American accolades.

During his sophomore year at MDJC in 1961 Clark was named an All-State end and a Junior College All American. As a result of this recognition, he was invited to play in the 6th annual East-West National Junior College Football Classic held at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. The game program for the Classic touted Clark as "One of Mississippi¹s outstanding junior college football players."

The JUCO standout received a football scholarship to play for the University of Tulsa, but he decided to stay closer to home and accepted a scholarship to play at Delta State University.

Herbert Hargett Player | Basketball | 1947 - 1949

In the late 1940's Herbert Hargett was scoring force to be dealt with - first at Belmont High School, then at Sunflower Junior College and later at Mississippi State University.

The 5'10" Hargett perfected his two-hand set shot at Belmont High leading that school to the State Championship in 1947 with a 39-1 record. As a freshman at Sunflower Junior College he was named to the All State basketball team. As a sophomore he was Team Captain and a unanimous choice for All State honors. That year he ranked 33rd in the nation in scoring among all junior and senior colleges, averaging 14.7 points per game.



Hargett continued to wow crowds and opponents at Mississippi State University where he averaged 18.6 points per game his senior year. This was second in the SEC only to Kentucky¹s 7-foot All American center Bill Spivey. As a senior Hargett was named First Team All SEC by several publications and Second Team All SEC by the Associated Press; he was listed as an Honorable Mention on Collier¹s All American Team. He finished his senior year in the Top 20 in the nation in scoring and in the Top 10 nationally in free throw shooting with an 80.6 percent average.

Hargett was drafted by the NBA Fort Wayne Pistons - now the Detroit Pistons, but did not sign due to military service obligations.







James E. "Jimmy" Bellipanni (deceased) Coach | Football, Basketball, Baseball, Track, Athletic Director | 1952 - 2002

Coach James F. "Jimmy" Bellipanni served as an instructor, coach, and finally, Athletic Director at Mississippi Delta Community College for 50 years from 1952 until his death in 2002. The Indianola native started at quarterback for the Sunflower Junior College Trojans as a freshman in 1946. He went on to earn his BS in Physical Education from Delta State and then returned to Moorhead and took up coaching at Moorhead Grammar School and Sunflower Junior College at the insistence of renowned Coach Jim Randall

Coach Jimmy, as he was affectionately known by thousands of former athletes, coached everything from men's and women's basket-ball to baseball and track and was Coach Randall's No.2 assistant coach in football.

He coached three State Track Championship teams at SJC and was the Trojans¹ Head Baseball Coach for 27 years, winning six State Championships. During his last five years as basketball coach his teams advanced to the State Finals four times.

During his 29 years as an assistant football coach, he helped MDJC win three State Championships, one in 1962 and back-to-back titles in 1972 and 1973. He shared Coaching Staff Of The Year honors in 1962, 1971, 1972 and 1973. He was named Athletic Director in 1978 and helped Trojans¹ athletic programs win numerous Division and State titles and the NJCAA Football Championship in 1993. He is an inaugural member of the MDCC Sports Hall of Fame and was the first-ever recipient of DSU¹s Distinguished Statesman Award. He was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame in 1998













Bob Weathers

Coach | Basketball | 1960 - 2002

Robert Wayne "Bobby" Weathers was born on September 16, 1932, in Hattiesburg, Miss., and grew up in the Oak Grove community. He Played at Miss. Southern (now Southern Miss) from 1950-54 and then coached the USM freshman team from 1955-57. From 1958 to 1959 Weathers was a USM assistant coach and recruiter. He earned his master's degree in 1959 and then coached one year at Picayune before joining Perkinston Junior College as head basketball coach. His career included an 877-329 record, 14 Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) South Division basketball championships, and nine MACJC state basketball championships. Coach Weathers was the first coach in the state of Mississippi to hold basketball camps for kids starting in 1961. The 1990, 1991 and 1993 teams each

won the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region XXIII title. His 1991 team finished fourth in the nation, and his 1993 team finished fifth in the nation. He was named MACJC Coach of the Year three times. He was inducted into The University of Southern Mississippi Hall of Fame in 1993. In 1994, he was inducted into the NJCAA Hall of Fame. In 1999, he was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame and was one of the inaugural inductees of the MGCCC Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame. He retired as head coach on June 30, 2002. His employment of 41 years, 11 months and 10 days set a service record at Gulf Coast.

George Sekul

Player | Football, Baseball | 1955 - 1957 Coach | Football, Track | 1961 - 1991

Steven George Sekul was born October 5, 1937, in Biloxi, Miss. He played football and baseball for Perkinston Junior College (PJC), 1955–1957. In 1956, he was named First Team Mississippi Junior College All-State and Honorable Mention Junior College All-American. From 1957-1961, he played and coached at Mississippi Southern College and earned a master's degree. In summer 1961, he joined PJC as an assistant football coach and head track coach, and by 1966, he had added head football coach to his duties. In 31 years as head track coach, the college won five South Division and five state championships, with some team members taking national laurels. His 26 years as head football coach yielded



two National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) championships (1971,1984), seven MACJC South Division championships, eight state championships and one co-state championship. The twice-named MACJC Coach of the Year guided the Bulldogs to three second-place state championships and four bowl-game victories. He retired in December 1991, with a career record of 204-77-5. His other accolades include the city of Biloxi's Sports Hall of Fame (1966), The University of Southern Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame (1968), and four-time winner of the MAJC/NJCAA Region XXIII Coach of the Year award. In 1996, he was inducted into the NJCAA Hall of Fame. In 1999, he was one of the inaugural inductees of the MGCCC Athletic Hall of Fame, and in 2000 was named to the MGCCC Alumni Hall of Fame, becoming the second person to be inducted into both MGCCC halls of fame. In 2002, he was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.



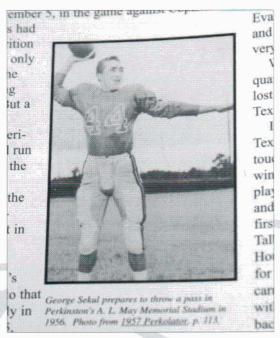


Ken "Curley" Farris

Coach | Baseball, Football | 1962 - 1989

Kenneth Callie "Curly" Farris was born on July 1, 1927, in Michie, Tenn., and grew up in Corinth, Miss. He lettered in football and baseball at Hinds Junior College, 1947-1949, and continued to participate in both sports at Mississippi Southern College in Hattiesburg. In 1962, he joined MGCJC as line coach in football, his first love. In spring 1963, he began the resurrection of baseball, which had been eliminated at Perkinston three years before. His Bulldogs delivered 27 consecutive winning seasons, capturing 20 Mississippi Association of Junior Colleges (MAJC) South Division championships and 13 MAJC state championships. The 1972 and 1975 teams were runner-ups in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Eastern District Tournament; his 1979 team took the NJCAA Region VII title. As

Bulldog line coach, he helped lead the college to four state football championship teams and to the 1971 NJCAA football championship. His accolades include the 1976 NJCAA Athletics Director's Award Region VII; the 1978 American Association of College Baseball Coaches "Award for Quarter Century of Leadership and Devotion to College Baseball"; coaching in the 1983 United States Olympic Committee's National Sports Festival in Colorado Springs, Col.; four-time winner of the MAJC Coach of the Year award; three-time winner of the Mississippi Association of Coaches Coach of the Year award; and member of the 1986 MAC Hall of Fame. He retired on July 1, 1989, and was succeeded by his son, Cooper Farris. In 1990, he was named to the NJCAA Hall of Fame, and in 1999, he became one of the inaugural inductees of the MGCCC Athletic Hall of Fame.



George Sekul prepares to throw a pass in Perkinston's A.L. May Memorial Stadium in 1956. Photo from 1957 Perkolator, p.133



Curly Farris (right) talks with his friend and colleague, head football coach Harold Wesson, in A. L. May Memorial Stadium in 1963. In 1962 Wesson, a fellow Corinthian, brought Curly to Perkinston to be his line coach in football. Cutly resurrected baseball as a sport at MGCJC and served as the head baseball coach for 27 years.



INDUCTEES



Adrian Smith

Player | Basketball | 1954 - 1956

Adrian Smith was a 6'1" guard on the Northeast Tiger basketball team from 1954-1956 and averaged approximately 22 points per game during his Tiger career. He was named All-American 1956 and signed with the University of Kentucky.

After two years at Kentucky, Smith joined the Army and played on the Pan-American team. He was a member of the undefeated U.S. men's basketball team that won the gold medal in the 1960 Olympics.

Smith was drafted by the Cincinnati Royals with the first pick in the fifteenth round of the 1958 NBA draft. He joined the team in 1961. His career also included stops with the San Francisco Warriors and the Virginia Squires of the ABA. During his time with the Warriors, legendary Boston Celtic coach Red Aurbach picked him to play in the 1966 All-Star Game. Smith was selected MVP of the game that year.

According to the Wikipedia web site, Smith averaged 11.8 points per game during his professional career. He led the league in free throw shooting percentage during the 1966-67 season, with a success percentage of .903.

Smith lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

William B. Ward

Coach | Football | 1968 - 1982

Charged with reviving the college's football program, Ward came to Northeast as head football coach in 1968. He compiled a 61-88-3 overall record before retiring from the sidelines following the 1982 season. His 1979 and 1980 teams won North Division titles and the 1980 team was State Runners-up. Ward was named 1980 Coach of the Year and was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame on July 29, 2088.



Ward took on Athletic Director duties at Northeast in 1973 and also served as Region 23 Director from 1974 – 1996. During that time he also did a stint as the Northeast golf coach. He worked as coordinator of the Mississippi Community/Junior College All-Star Classic football game beginning in 1987 when Northeast became the game's host site.

Ward is the recipient of the Mississippi Association of Coaches 40-Year Service Award and the National Junior College Athletic Association Loyalty Award.



INDUCTEES



Bonner Arnold (deceased)

Coach | Men's Basketball | 1948 - 1965

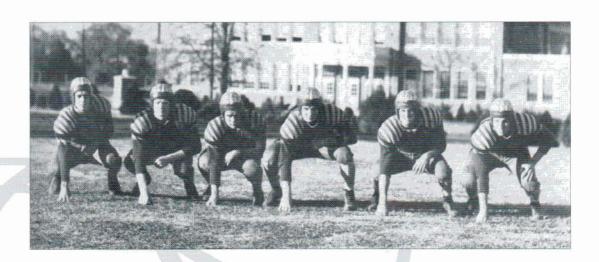
BonBonner Arnold of the Frankstown Community in Prentiss County, MS played football and basketball at Sunflower Junior College in Moorhead, MS. After earning a B.A. from Mississippi State and a M.A, from the University of Mississippi, he began his coaching career at Hills Chapel in 1931.

Arnold was hired as basketball coach and physical education director at Northeast Mississippi Junior College before the college officially opened its doors in 1948. According to family records, Arnold recorded a 497-106 mark, a winning percentage of .824, over the next 17 seasons.

Arnold's Tigers posted back-to-back runners-up finishes at the junior college National Tournament in 1950 and 1951. His teams won eight Miss. Valley Conference titles, seven Mississippi Junior College championships, as well as two District VII runners-up finishes.

In 1965 Arnold left the sidelines and worked solely as the college's athletic director and a physical education instructor. He retired from Northeast in 1976 at age 66. The previous year saw Northeast name the gymnasium for the legendary coach. The facility became known as Bonner Arnold Coliseum.

Arnold passed away January 4, 1978 at age 70. He was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame posthumously in 1979.



Northwest Mississippi Community College

INDUCTEES





Bobby Franklin

Coach | Football | 1981 - 2004

One of the nation's most successful community/junior college football coaches, Bobby Franklin led the Northwest Ranger football team to NJCAA National Championships in 1982 and 1992 and to the runner-up spot in 1991. In the 24 years he served as head coach before his retirement in 2005, he garnered six MACJC state titles, six Region 23 championships, and 12 north division titles; led his team to eight bowl games; and motivated 71 All-Americans. Franklin's career coaching record stands at 202-56-6, including 24 consecutive winning seasons. In 2004 Franklin's coaching career reached a milestone when he became just the fifth coach in NJCAA history to win 200 or more games. He came to Northwest in 1979 and joined the Northwest football program as offensive coordinator. Franklin began his coaching career as an

assistant coach at Georgia Tech University before holding positions with the NFL's Dallas Cowboys and Baltimore Colts. An outstanding athlete in his own right, Franklin was an All-SEC quarterback for the Ole Miss Rebels and was named Most Valuable Player in the 1958 Gator Bowl and the 1960 Sugar Bowl before spending seven years as a pro defensive back for the Cleveland Browns. A testament to his success, he is a member of the University of Mississippi Athletic Hall of Fame, Northwest's Sports Hall of Fame, NJCAA Hall of Fame, and the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. He was named to Phi Delta Theta Fraternity's All-Century Pro Football Team in 1999, and in 2003 the field at Northwest's Ranger Stadium was named Bobby Franklin Field in his honor.

Jim Miles Coach | Baseball | 1975 - 1997

Donny Castle, Northwest athletic director and former head baseball coach, has been a mainstay on the Northwest staff since 1979, when he came to the college as assistant baseball coach. He is currently in his sixth year as athletic director. Castle ended his baseball career at Northwest by coaching in 1,177 games. As head coach, he posted an eight-year record of 271-120-4, including four north division championships and one MACJC state crown. His teams were runners-up in the Region 23 Division II Tournament on four occasions. During Castle's tenure, 14 Rangers were selected NJCAA Academic All-American. As an assistant for 19 years, Castle helped the Rangers post a 506-276 mark, which included five north division titles, four state championships, three Region 23 crowns and two eastern district championships. North-



west qualified for the NJCAA Division II World Series in 1996 and 1997, earning the runner-up title in 1996. A 10-year veteran of professional baseball, Castle was drafted in the first round of the 1968 pro draft and played for the Washington Senators before joining the Texas Rangers and the New York Yankees. For his accomplishments, he was inducted into Northwest's Sports Hall of Fame in 2004

Northwest Mississippi Community College

INDUCTEES

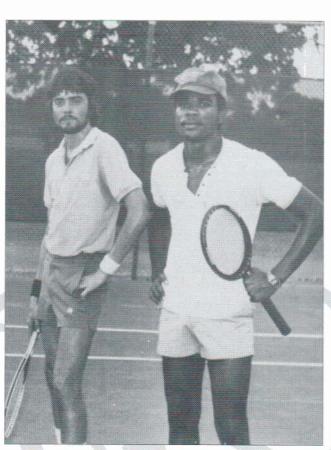




Donny Castle
Coach | Baseball | 1979 - 2005

James C. Miles Jr. was head baseball coach at Northwest from 1975 until his retirement in 1997 and also served the college as athletic director from 1988 until 1997. Under his leadership, Northwest made two appearances in the Division II College World Series—including a runner-up finish in 1996—and claimed seven state championships, four region titles, and two district crowns. A Northwest alumnus, Miles holds a career coaching record of 556-304, which ranks him among the all-time leaders in the NJCAA. He was named Mississippi Junior College Athletic Association Coach of the Year six times, received Mississippi Association of Coaches Junior College Coach of the Year three times, and was selected Region 23 Coach of the Year on two occasions. One of Miles' many accomplishments at Northwest was helping establish

the college's Sports Hall of Fame in 1991. His name was added to the list of honorees when he was inducted in the fall of 1994 for excelling as an athlete at Northwest, where he played baseball and basketball from 1961 through 1963. Upon graduation from Northwest, Miles attended Delta State University before being drafted as a pitcher for the Washington Senators. One highlight of Miles' seven-year big league career, which also included a stint with the Texas Rangers, was a strikeout of Mickey Mantle in their only meeting. Miles is also a member of the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame.









Pearl River Community College





Thomas D. "Dobie" Holden (deceased)
Coach | Football | 1948 - 1966

Coach Thomas "Dobie" Holden was head football coach at Pearl River Community College from 1948 to 1966. Under Coach Holden, the Wildcats won 140 games, lost 43 and tied 7. They won seven state championships, the first in 1949. His 1961 team was undefeated at 10-0 and finished the season ranked No. 1 in the country. His Wildcat teams also won four of five bowl games.

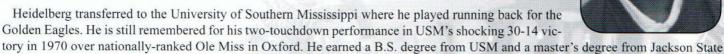
Coach Holden was one of the first to recognize the potential of the forward pass, even as early as his high school days, and his experimentation with the pro-set at Pearl River in the 1950s came way before that formation became standard procedure for college and pro teams.

After starring at LSU as a player, Coach Holden returned to Picayune to become head coach in 1933. In 10 years, his record was 72-19-7. At one time his Picayune teams won 37 straight games. His lifetime coaching record was 240-74-15. Coach Holden, who was a teacher and administrator at Pearl River, died in 1986. His wife, Earlora, still resides in Poplarville.

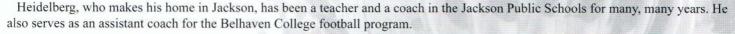
Willie Heidelberg

Player | Football | 1968 - 1970

Willie Heidelberg, a graduate of John Jefferson High School in Purvis, played football at Pearl River Community College in the 1968 & 1969 seasons. As an all-state running back, he led the Wildcats to an undefeated season and state championship in 1969. During that championship season, he rushed for 910 yards and scored three touchdowns in two different games. He stood only 5-foot-6, and weighed 150 pounds.



University.





Antrice McGill Walker

Player | Basketball | 1987 - 1989

Antrice McGill Walker, a Picayune native, was Pearl River Community College's first women's basketball player named first team National Junior College Athletic Association All-American in 1989. She played at PRCC from 1987-89. As a freshman, she averaged 22.2 points and 7.8 rebounds per game. She was first team all-state, all-region, and made the all-region tournament team, while leading the Wildcats to a 20-9 record.

Her sophomore year, she received all the same honors as well as All-American status. She finished fourth in the nation in scoring (26 points per game), fifth in rebounding, and played in the Mississippi Community College All-Star game. She shot 61 percent from the field.

Antrice went on to play basketball at Ole Miss, where she also received the Lady Rebel award and was a Senior Maid on the homecoming court. She currently resides in Houston, Texas

With Appreciation . . .

Our sincere appreciation is expressed to the following individuals who contributed greatly to the success of this induction of Charter Members of the Mississippi Community & Junior College Sports Hall of Fame:

Mrs. Dot Murphy Program Planning

Mrs. Celeste Williamson...... Program Design

Mrs. Brenda Parrett

Mrs. Natalie Davis & staff

Mrs. Charlotte Hill & staff...... Administrative Support

Mrs. Judy Bufkin Decorations

Mrs. Marilyn Brown

& Conference Center Staff..... Wolf Hall Arrangements

Mrs. Diana Mezzanares

& Valley Staff...... Banquet Arrangements

Mr. Richard Kopp Photography

Mr. Mark LaFrancis PowerPoint & video production

Mr. Dwight Robinson

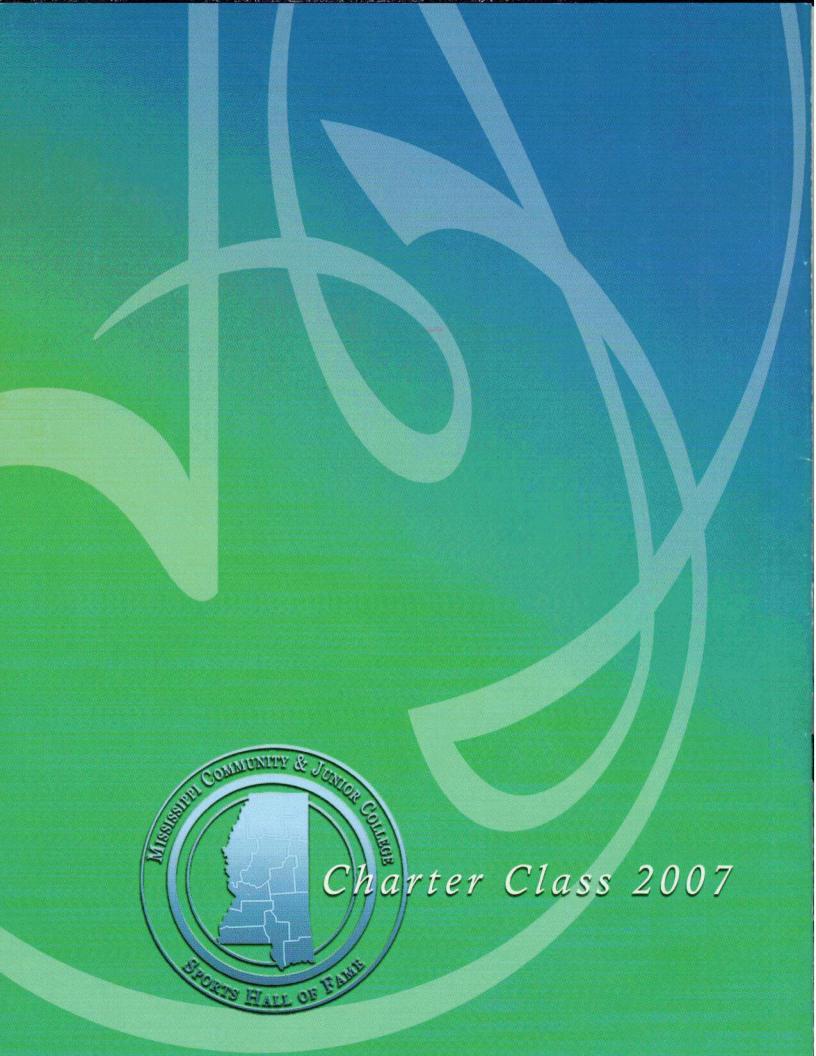
Mr. Hubert Greer...... Crafting of Medallion Stands

Mr. Bill Snyder...... Master of Ceremonies

Co-Lin Trailblazers Student Hospitality group

Graditude is also expressed to the many other individuals who made contributions to the success of this program in some way.





ECCC

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Mississippi Community & Junior College Sports Hall of Fame April 22, 2008



hosted at Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Thames Conference Center

East Central Community College





Lamar Blount
Player | Football (1939-41)

The late Lamar Blount is the first NJCAA All-American at East Central Community College in Decatur, an honor received as a member of the 1939 state champion Warrior squad. He was named to ECCC's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1989.

The Philadelphia native was also a star wingback at Mississippi State College (now-MSU) and helped lead State to the Southeastern Conference title in 1941. His standout career continued at Duke University, where he was All Southern Conference. Blount also played professional football for several teams.

He had a brief career as a school teacher and operated a dairy, beef and timber business for many years. He was a former member of the ECCC Board of Trustees.

He was married to the former Naomi Gibbs Foster of Philadelphia, also deceased. They had two sons and two daughters. Family members also include six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Earl Marshall Player | Football (1954-56)

Earl Marshall was an All-State offensive and defensive end at East Central Community College in Decatur, where he was a member of the 1954 and 1955 Warrior squads. He was inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1989.

The Philadelphia native was also a football standout at the University of Southern Mississippi from 1956-57. He joined the USM Sports Hall of Fame in 1991.

Marshall continued his involvement in sports as a high school and junior high coach. He also had successful career in the insurance business and was previously employed at ECCC.

He has served both alma maters in various capacities and received numerous honors in recognition of his service. He is credited with establishing The Warrior Club, a support group for ECCC athletics, in 1988.

He is married to the former Bobbie Jones of Forest. They have three sons and four grandchildren.





